

good he will stick with the Yanks.

Claude Derrick, another of the Orioles the Sox were angling for, has been sold to the Cincinnati Reds along with Outfielder Twombly. On the ability he exhibited in the American League, both with the Mackmen and Yanks, Derrick would not have been a strong addition to the South Side troop.

He never shone as a hitter, and had difficulty holding a thrown ball at second base, an unusual failing for a big league infielder. In the International he has been hitting around the .300 mark, but the pitching in that circuit and the brand of twirling on exhibition in the American League this year are not comparative.

If Derrick couldn't make good two years ago, he certainly would fail now, for the twirlers in the Johnson circuit have increased their efficiency at least 50 per cent, and the batters who have made great records for years are having trouble keeping within speaking distance of their former marks.

Larry Chappell would be a great help to the Sox now, but it is extremely doubtful if the former Brewer will be available for duty during the season.

A double bill will be pulled off in Boston this afternoon. Cal doesn't mind the two-a-days, as he has the pitchers to stand the toll.

A set-up lies ahead for the Cubs. All they have to do to edge the Giants out of first base is to continue playing ball at something near the speed they have exhibited in the last two weeks. It will not take phenomenal work to pull down the New Yorkers.

If the West Siders can make a decent showing against the western teams, then St. Louis, Pittsburgh and the Giants themselves will do the rest.

For McGraw's team is not going well. The pitchers are wobbling miserably, and the remaining athletes are not exhibiting the same fire and dash that carried them through to three pennants in a row.

Mathewson is the only Giant pitcher who can be relied on. He has a better record now than he has had at this time for years. But the others are gambles. Demaree has been a disappointment. He divided with Bert Humphries the honor of leading the league in games won last season. Now he is fortunate to last six innings.

Tesreau and Marquard usually have to be rescued, and Fromme is kept so busy at this that he can't take his turn in the box.

When such situations arise McGraw doesn't hesitate to adopt desperate measures. He is on the verge of a gamble that may make or break his team. The report from Cincinnati has it that Snodgrass, Murray and probably Merkle are to be traded to the Reds for Hoblitzel, Bates, a claim to the services of Marsans, who jumped to the Feds, and possibly Niehoff.

The players involved cannot be definitely named, but a big shift is imminent.

McGraw is gambling that the new players, lifted to a team that has a chance for the world's series coin, will play inspired baseball. It is a long chance, as Hobby now is batting down near .200, and Bates was never noted for his brightness. Marsans is tied up in the courts.

While McGraw is trading horses in midstream, O'Day can stand pat on his present line-up, which at last shows signs of playing up to its proper speed. The only change probably in our outfit is in the outfield. Good has slumped badly lately, and Johnston may be shoved into the breach.

New York opened its western trip with a defeat at Pittsburgh. That is encouraging to Cub rooters and a lot of them are returning to the fold, now that the locals have started a spurt—for Pittsburgh has been one city in which the Giants usually fattened. Marquard and Demaree were the pitching victims, and both were well thumped. The Rube has usually been successful against the Pirates.

If this reversal can be continued